

William M. Williams House
HA 1922

Located on the uphill, east side of Chestnut Street overlooking the town of Cardiff, Maryland, this circa 1895 house is the one of four similarly designed houses which sit on the uphill side of Chestnut Street. Moderately decorated with Victorian details, this house is a late Victorian era vernacular structure with simple lines. Built with a desire for light and ventilation, the many windows and porches were typical of the era. As with the majority of houses in the town, slate has a prominent place among the building materials of this structure in its use in the foundation and roof. The subdivided lots on the eastern, high side of Chestnut Street appear to have been prime real estate of the times as evidenced by the quality and stature of the houses along here.

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. HA 1922

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common William M. Williams House

2. Location

street & number 1631 Chestnut Street

N/a not for publication

city, town Cardiff

 vicinity of

congressional district 5th

state Maryland

county Harford

3. Classification

Category

☒ district
☒ building(s)
☐ structure
☐ site
☐ object

Ownership

☐ public
☒ private
☐ both
Public Acquisition
☐ in process
☐ being considered
☒ not applicable

Status

☒ occupied
☐ unoccupied
☐ work in progress
Accessible
☐ yes: restricted
☒ yes: unrestricted
☒ no

Present Use

☐ agriculture
☐ commercial
☐ educational
☐ entertainment
☐ government
☐ industrial
☐ military
☐ museum
☐ park
☒ private residence
☐ religious
☐ scientific
☐ transportation
☐ other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name David B. and Michelle M. Jones

street & number same

telephone no.: (410)452-5591

city, town Cardiff

state and zip code MD, 21024

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Harford County Courthouse

liber CGH 1296

street & number 20 W. Courtland Pl.

folio 55

city, town Bel Air

state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title none

date

 federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

7. Description

Survey No. HA 1922

Condition

☒ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Located on the uphill, east side of Chestnut Street overlooking the town of Cardiff, Maryland, this two-story frame house is three bays by a deep two bays, with a front porch running the length of the first-story west, main facade. The main gable roof ridge has a north and south ridge, with a central chimney and a projecting cross gable centered on the main facade. Two segments of addition are located at the rear of the building, a an innocuous two-story gable-roof addition projects off the southeast corner adding depth and breadth to the main structure and ties into a two-story shed roof extension of the main house. As typical of the houses of this major slate quarrying area, the main house roof is of slate shingles and foundation is of coursed slate. The house has been re-sided with blue-gray vinyl.

Embellished by a three-paneled transom and three-paneled sidelights, the main entrance is at the south first-story bay of the main facade. The two north and middle bay first-story windows have been replaced by 1/1 sash variety, whereas the upper three windows are the original 2/2. Windows of the main facade are evenly spaced and accented by black shutters.

Windows occupy each bay and the gable of the north endwall. Again, the first-story 2/2 sash windows have been replaced with 1/1. The south endwall has new windows in the eastern upper and lower bays and one 2/2 centered on the gable.

The original house is nicely proportioned and tastefully detailed. The projecting gable of the main roof is enhanced by a centered, small 1/1 window and lattice-work gable finish. The hip-roofed porch is decorated by unusual cut-out brackets and turned posts. The simple porch balustrade extends down the south-end porch steps in front of the addition, tying the southeast corner addition to the main house.

8. Significance

Survey No. HA 1922

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

This circa 1895 house is the one of four similarly designed houses which sit on the uphill side of Chestnut Street. Moderately decorated with Victorian details, this house is late Victorian era vernacular structure with simple lines. Built with a desire for light and ventilation, the many windows and porches were typical of the era. As with the majority of houses in the town, slate has a prominent place among the building materials of this structure in its use in the foundation and roof. The subdivided lots on the eastern, high side of Chestnut Street appear to have been prime real estate of the times as evidenced by the quality and stature of the houses along here.

The adjacent towns of Whiteford, Cardiff, and Delta (PA) developed primarily from the region's tremendous slate industry, which attracted workers and their families from the slate quarries of Wales. The three linear, connecting towns developed rapidly during the second half of the nineteenth century, resulting in the construction of Chestnut Street in 1890 and its subsequent development. The original owner of this house, William M. Williams, was kin to or was one of many Welsh quarrymen who immigrated to the region seeking further opportunities.

Originally owned by Thomas Hawkins (farmer) in a patented land grant known as "Hawkins Chance", this land was part of the tract sold by the Hawkins family to Rowland Parry, a Welsh quarry owner who operated one of the first prominent commercial quarries in the area. It was Parry who exhibited Peach Bottom slate in the London Crystal Palace exposition in 1850, winning it international recognition as the world's finest slate. "Hawkins Chance" was divided and sold in pieces. This piece apparently was 25 acres in size and contained a quarry which was owned at one time by the West Bangor Slate Mining Company. The parcel was platted and subdivided following the Equity Case of William H. Harlan v. Annie H. Whitaker in 1889.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. HA 1922

See additional sheets

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property .402 acres

Quadrangle name Delta

Quadrangle scale 24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A	Zone	Easting	Northing

B	Zone	Easting	Northing

C			
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D			
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E			
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F			
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G			
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H			
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Verbal boundary description and justification

Parcel 58 on tax map 5, as provided on accompanying map

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	none	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Dianne Klair

organization Harford County Planning and Zoning date September 1995

street & number 220 S. Main Street

telephone (410)638-3103

city or town Bel Air

stateMD

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DHCP/DHCD
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023
514-7600

PS-2746

WILLIAM M. WILLIAM'S HOUSE
Title Search

CGH 1296/55	November 15, 1985	Grantor: David B. Jones Grantee: David B. and Michelle M. Jones Granted: two town lots on west side of Chestnut St. with improvements, as shown on plat as lots 14 and 15 as recorded with Equity Case WSF 60/475.
HDC 1138/87	February 2, 1981	Grantor: Brookie H. Jones Grantee: David B. Jones Granted: her share of the same property in divorce settlement.
HDC 1119/801	April 30, 1980	Grantor: Eleanor W. Stewart Grantee: David B and Brookie H. Jones Granted: two town lots on west side of Chestnut St. with improvements
GRG 665/497	December 29, 1964	Grantor: Zero, Inc. Grantee: Jane H. Williams (with remainder to William M. Williams and Eleanor Stewart) Granted: same
GRG 665/495	December 29, 1964	Grantor: Jane H. Williams and William M. Williams Grantee: Zero, Inc. Granted: same
GRG 440/509	July 30, 1955	Grantor: Jane H. Williams Grantee: William M. Williams Granted: same
WSF 80/1	February 24, 1894	Grantor: William H. Harlan, Trustee (in Equity Case WSF 60/475, William H. Harlan v. Annie H. (Whitaker) McConkey et al., January 1889) Grantee: William M. Williams, Jr. Granted: two contiguous lots (14 and 15) for \$240.00
ALJ 50/343	May 28, 1884	Grantor: William H. Harlan et al. Grantee: Annie H. Whitaker Granted: 25 acres, of "Hawkins Chance"
ALJ 32/84 (mortgage)	May 26, 1875	Mortgagor: John Feruley, Executor of Estate of James Whitaker Mortgagee: Oliver and Mary E. Whitaker Granted: 25 acres, of "Hawkins Chance" Oliver Whitaker indebted to estate of James Whitaker for \$6400.00.

ALJ 23/474	April 6, 1870	Grantor: David Swope et al. Grantee: Oliver Whitaker Granted: 25 acres of "Hawkins Chance" for \$12,000.00
WHD 15/362	September 14, 1864	Grantor: Alexander Garrett et al. Grantee: West Bangor Mining Company (Alexander Garrett, David Swope part of this company) Granted: same
WHD 15/361	September 14, 1864	Grantor: I. Holmes Grover Grantee: Alexander Garrett and David Swope Granted: same
WHD 15/261	May 31, 1864	Grantor: Rowland Parry Grantee: I. Holmes Grover Granted: same
HDG 36/212	January 22, 1850	Grantor: Archibald A. and Nancy Hawkins Grantee: Rowland Perry (Parry) Granted: part of "Hawkins Chance" for \$850.00, acreage unknown
HDG 34/492	February 9, 1849	Grantor: Edward Proctor et al. Grantee: Archabald A. Hawkins Granted: "Hawkins Chance", being part of Thomas Hawkins landholdings; 74 acres 5 perches
HD 14/336	August 3, 1831	Grantor: Isaac Hawkins, heir to Thomas Hawkins Grantee: Thomas Proctor, heir to Edward Proctor Granted: The eighth part of land tracts "Hawkins Chance", "Williams Birthright", Mount Pleasant", and "Montgomerys Delight". The four tracts contain 188 acres total. No mention of "eighth part" acreage.
Land Tract, Patented	After March 1774, when Harford est.	"Hawkins Chance", tract of 74 acres 5 perches granted to Thomas Hawkins. Located on the Maryland and Pennsylvania line at the north end of present day Cardiff. Divided, sold, and reworked often.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Common Houses in America's Small Towns: The Atlantic Seaboard to the Mississippi Valley, John A. Jakle, Robert W. Bastian, and Douglas K. Meyer. 1989.

Land Records, Harford County Courthouse.

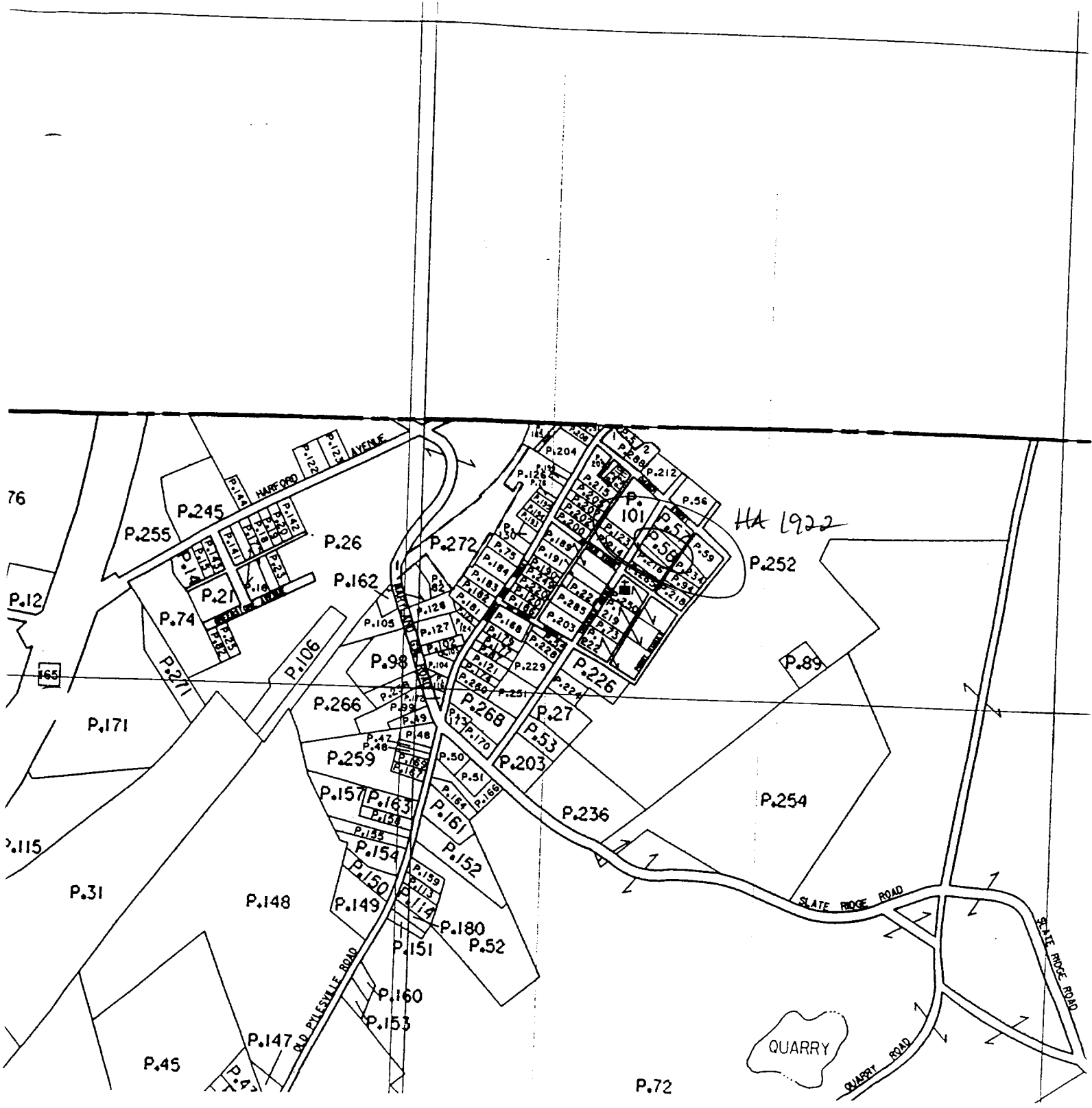
Delta Centennial, A souvenir book from the 1953 centennial celebration which was organized by the Delta-Cardiff Fire Company.

Conversation with Mrs. Darcy Lloyd, April 11, 1995.

Conversations with Mrs. Marion Scaborough, June 20, June 22, July 25, and August 1, 1995 regarding Parry family history.

Harford County Historical Society Archives.

Various conversations with area residents for a contextual history of the inventory structures.



HA-1922

William M. Williams House
Parcel 58, Tax Map 5

13.8 Pr.

Dixon's line N. 85° W. 67.2° P

Geo. L. Hanky Knipe





7. 1922

William M. Williams House

Harford County, Maryland

Dianne Klair

3/95

Maryland SHFB

~~Christ Weathers, Harford County, Dept of Planning & Zoning~~

View east from Chestnut Street

1/2



HA 1422

William M. Williams House

Harford County, Maryland

Dianne Klen

3/95

Maryland SHPo

~~Chris Wickes, Harford County Dept. of Planning & Zoning~~

~~View northeast from Chestnut Street~~

2/2